

Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2006

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

Indicator 1: Percent of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who receive the early intervention services on their IFSPs in a timely manner.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(A) and 1442)

Measurement: Percent = [(# of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who receive the early intervention services on their IFSPs in a timely manner) divided by the (total # of infants and toddlers with IFSPs)] times 100.

Account for untimely receipt of services.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
FFY 2006 <i>(July 1, 2006 - June 30, 2007)</i>	100%

Actual Target Data for FFY 2006 (July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007):

ORIGINAL SUBMISSION

93.7% of IFSP services were provided in a timely manner based on 3,328 services out of 3,553 of all new services listed on the IFSPs. Of these services representing 590 infants and toddlers, 438 or 74.2% received early intervention in a timely manner. Massachusetts defines “timely services” as those that begin within, and do not exceed, 30 days of the IFSP signature date.

REVISION

The Lead Agency incorrectly reported for services that were not compliant but had justification. A data field documenting extraordinary circumstances (such as family request, family schedule, child hospitalized, unable to contact family, and no shows) was not included in our original calculations. The revision for this indicator shows a significant improvement from last year in Massachusetts’ data reported under this indicator.

The percentage of infants and toddlers receiving IFSP services in a timely manner is 86.8% not 74.2% as reported in the originally submitted State Part C Annual Performance Report for FFY 2006. The percentage of timely services is 97.0% not 93.7%.

The target data was obtained through state monitoring data, FY 2007 Annual Report/Self-Assessment, from 59 Early Intervention programs (ten files per program). The calculation is based on every IFSP service identified on the Initial, Annual and IFSP Reviews, collected for each child and represents the percent of services that are timely and the percent of infants and toddlers who receive 100% of early intervention services on their IFSPs in a timely manner.

The FY 2007 Annual Report/Self-Assessment, Timeliness of Services Survey grid below provides a breakdown of the number of services and infants and toddlers who received services in a timely manner.

ORIGINAL SUBMISSION**FFY 2006 (2006-2007)/State FY 2007***Data source: FY 2007 Annual Report/Self-Assessment, Timeliness of Services Survey***THIS YEAR (FY 2007)**

Category	Children		Services	
	#	%	#	%
Yes	438	74.2%	2,864	80.6%
No, but acceptable reason			464	13.1%
No	152	25.8%	225	6.3%
Total	590	100.0%	3,553	100.0%

Total compliant

438 74.2% 3,328 93.7%

REVISION**THIS YEAR (FY07)**

Category	Children		Services	
	#	%	#	%
Yes	512	86.8%	2,864	80.6%
No, but acceptable reason			583	16.4%
No	78	13.2%	106	3.0%
Total	590	100.0%	3,553	100.0%

Total compliant

512 86.8% 3,447 97.0%

LAST YEAR (FY 2006)

Category	Children		Services	
	#	%	#	%
Yes	450	74.0%	2,572	85.6%
No, but acceptable reason			183	6.1%
No	158	26.0%	251	8.3%
Total	608	100.0%	3,006	100.0%

Total compliant

450 74.0% 2,755 91.7%

Discussion of Improvement Activities Completed and Explanation of Progress or Slippage that occurred for FFY 2006:

The methodology for collecting data for Indicator #1 remained the same as last year. However, the FY 2007 Annual Report/Self-Assessment was revised to automatically calculate the 30 day timeframe.

The data revision impacts the numbers reported in the Explanation of Progress or Slippage that occurred for FFY 2006.

In the FFY 2005 APR, the Lead Agency staff reported the percentage of early intervention services (**91.7%**) that were identified on the IFSP that were provided in a timely manner. Based on guidance and clarification from OSEP, Massachusetts is reporting both the percentage of early intervention services that are timely (**97.0%**) and the percentage of infants and toddlers who receive 100% of their services within the states definition of timely (**86.8%**) for the FFY 2006 APR.

Massachusetts defines "timely services" as those that begin within, and do not exceed, 30 days of the IFSP signature date. Programs are encouraged to make good faith efforts to begin services immediately following the date of the IFSP signature.

Of the 3,553 services counted as being timely, **583** were late due to documented extraordinary family circumstances such as family request, family cancelled, other family situation (moved, vacation, illness) or difficulty contacting the family. The reason for delays that were documented as staff scheduling, staff shortages, or program staffing issues were considered noncompliant. The grid below provides a further breakdown of the number of days an early intervention service was provided beyond 30 days of the IFSP signature.

ORIGINAL SUBMISSION

Non-Compliance

Category	# Services
0 to 5 days beyond compliance	41
6 to 10 days beyond compliance	20
11 to 15 days beyond compliance	50
16 to 20 days beyond compliance	9
21+ days beyond compliance	42
No calculated timeframe due to no first date	63
Total	225

REVISION

Compliance is No

Category	# Svs
0 to 5 days beyond compliance	17
6 to 10 days beyond compliance	8
11 to 15 days beyond compliance	18
16 to 20 days beyond compliance	0
21+ days beyond compliance	11
No calculated timeframe due to no first date	52
Total	106

Although the target for this Indicator is 100% the state did show improvement in the percent of all services provided in a timely manner (**91.7%** in FFY 2005 to **97.0%** in FFY 2006) which shows a significant and moderate increase respectively in the percent of infants and toddlers who receive early intervention services on their IFSP in a timely manner (**74.0%** in FFY 2005 to **86.8%** in FFY 2006).

Further analysis of the data indicates that a few programs are well below the state average in the percent of children who received services in a timely manner and the percent of services provided in a timely manner. Lead Agency staff will develop corrective action plans with those programs below the state average for this indicator.

Public Reporting/Local Determinations

Massachusetts publicly reported local program performance on Indicator # 1 by comparing individual Early Intervention Program performance with the state average and state target in July 2007 and will continue to do so on an annual basis. In addition, data gathered on Indicator # 1 is used in making local determinations.

Focused Monitoring

Programs will be annually grouped and ranked in March based on the number of days the first IFSP service begins after the IFSP signature date. This data is universally collected by all Early Intervention Programs and is obtained by matching EIS data with Service Delivery data. Low performing programs in each grouping will be selected for an Onsite visit in the priority area of Service Coordination.

Correction of Noncompliance identified in FFY 2005

As reported in FFY 2005 APR Massachusetts identified three Findings of noncompliance related to Indicator # 1. Two Findings of noncompliance were identified through Onsite Focused Monitoring visits in the priority area of Service Coordination, and one through the complaint management system. All three findings have been corrected within the one year timeline through the development of a corrective action plan. Onsite file review data verification demonstrated substantial compliance with the timely provision of services for the two findings identified through Onsite Focused Monitoring visits. Correction of the finding identified through the complaint management system was verified in writing by the Early Intervention Program to the Lead Agency.

Noncompliance identified in FFY 2006

There were six Findings of noncompliance identified in FY 2006 related to Indicator # 1. Four Findings were identified through the Annual Report/Self-Assessment and programs were notified in June 2007 of the noncompliance. An additional two Findings were identified through Focused Monitoring Onsite visits under the Service Coordination priority area. Programs were notified in July 2006 and October 2006 respectively of the noncompliance. Corrective action plans were developed with all six programs and the timely correction of noncompliance will be reported in the FFY 2007 APR.

Revisions, with Justification, to Proposed Targets / Improvement Activities / Timelines / Resources for FFY 2007.**Improvement Activities FFY 2007**

The Timeliness of Services Survey section of the FY 2008 Annual Report/Self-Assessment will be distributed to all EIPs in late summer/early fall 2008, separate from the remainder of the Annual Report/Self-Assessment. Service delivery data will be utilized to match program reported IFSP service dates. The Data Manager along with Lead Agency regional staff will review data, send individual reports to all programs with outcome results for local programs to review, edit, make corrections, and provide the appropriate justification for untimely services to ensure more accurate and reliable data.

Timeline: September 2008

Resource: Data Manager/ Lead Agency Regional Staff

New improvement activities noted above are reflected in the Massachusetts Part C State Performance Plan.